

5.5 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

This analysis focuses on the potential for adverse impacts to cultural and paleontological resources associated with the adoption and implementation of the proposed General Plan, adoption and implementation of the revised Zoning Code and Subdivision Code, and adoption and implementation of the Magnolia Avenue Specific Plan. The Citywide Design Guidelines and Sign Guidelines only address site planning, building design and community aesthetics and are thus not considered relevant to this analysis.

Analysis is based upon the *Draft Cultural Resources Element of the City of Riverside General Plan Update* prepared by Applied EarthWorks, Inc. in December, 2003 and the Historic Preservation Element of the City of Riverside General Plan (adopted 2003, GP-005-023). The City adopted a negative declaration in association with the 2003 Historic Preservation Element.). The complete Applied EarthWorks, Inc. report is contained in **Appendix D** of this EIR.

Environmental Setting

Paleontological Setting

Over the last ten million years, climate in the Riverside region has fluctuated between cold and warm, wet and dry. During cold periods, snow fell on the Box Springs Mountains, and small glaciers carved valleys high in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains. In warm periods like today, the local climate has become drier. With this drying, shrubs and species of small trees replaced grasslands. Prehistoric animal species known to exist in the region include the American lion, saber-toothed cat, prehistoric bison and paleo-Indian and giant condors.

One of Southern California's most historic inland fossil sites was once about two miles from downtown Riverside. In recent centuries, a south-trending bend in the Santa Ana River had cut into a large, steep embankment. The exposed cliff was often quarried for building material, in one case at a place known as "Campbell's Sand Pit." Through the first half of the twentieth century, people found fossils of Ice Age mammals among the sands of the Santa Ana River banks in the City of Riverside. In 1923, fragments of tusk and 2 mammoth molars were found in the sand pit, and in 1952, fragments of a mammoth jaw were discovered along the River near Grand Avenue. All of these fossils and others were gathered along this stretch of the Santa Ana River when its banks were still lined with citrus groves, small farms and ranches. Beginning in the 1950s, these agricultural lands began to be converted to residential development, so that today none of the exposures can be seen, not even Campbell's Sand Pit. As of 2004, the area south of Mockingbird Canyon Reservoir is the only other portion of the Planning Area considered as a place of paleontological importance.

Today, Riverside County's Anza Narrows Regional Park – just west of the original location of Campbell's Sand Pit – provides one of the few unobstructed views of the Santa Ana River and its banks. At some point in the future it is anticipated that the water of the Santa Ana River will again undercut the sandy south bank, revealing more of the fossil remains of the creatures of prehistoric Riverside.¹

Archaeological Setting

Prehistoric and Ethnohistoric Settlement (Pre-1769)

The fertile valleys and canyons fed by the Santa Ana River and its tributaries and sheltered by Mount Rubidoux and the Box Springs Mountains were home to the Cahuilla and Serrano Indians, and possibly the Luiseño Indians, who had inhabited the area for many hundreds, if not thousands, of years.

Prehistoric and ethnohistoric archaeological sites likely to be found within the City's Planning Area include: villages represented by residential bases with house features (stone and/or adobe), storage features, human burials and cremations, rock art (pictographs and/or petroglyphs); temporary encampments represented by flaked and ground stone scatters with fire hearths and possibly storage features; resource procurement and processing sites represented by bedrock milling stations, tool stone quarries, flaked and ground stone artifact scatters, and/or hunting blinds; trails demarked by cairns and possibly rock art; isolated cultural features such as rock art, intaglios, and/or shrines; isolated flaked or ground stone artifacts; and traditional cultural landscapes/sacred places that may include important gathering or collecting places, springs, mountain tops or rock outcroppings, burial grounds, etc.

As shown in **Figure 5-5**, the Planning Area's sensitivity for archaeological resources is ranked as Unknown, Low, Medium and High. Rankings are based on previous survey coverage and archaeological site density. Areas classified as Unknown are primarily those areas that were urbanized prior to the mid-1970s, as well as extant citrus groves surrounding the urbanized, built environment. Areas classified as Unknown may contain buried archaeological deposits dating to the City's prehistoric and historical periods.

Figure 5-6 depicts where prehistoric archaeological cultural resources would be likely to be found based on environmental conditions such as the presence of reliable water sources, topography and important vegetation communities. Again, areas classified as Unknown are those areas confined to the City's downtown area that were urbanized during the early and mid-1900s where the current environmental conditions may not reflect the original environmental conditions. As stated above, historical archaeological resources, such as buried hollow features containing historical refuse deposits, are often associated with standing historical structures or the former location of historical structures.

¹ Paleontological resources data retrieved from
<http://www.ci.riverside.ca.us/museum/exhibit/sandpits.htm>.

Figure 5-5
Archaeological Sensitivity
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Figure 5-6
Geographic Sensitivity
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Historic Setting

Before 1870, the Planning Area had long been inhabited by Cahuilla tribes of Native Americans. Europeans settled and established missions early in the 1770s; upon secularization in 1834, large land grants were ultimately divided and re-divided among the earliest European and American settlers. Although only scant evidence exists of the early European settlement, the land patterns of subsequent development most certainly were influenced by them.

The City of Riverside's historic buildings, structures, objects, archeological sites and features, landscapes and neighborhoods are physical reminders of the ways in which early inhabitants and later citizens of the City of Riverside used and developed the land. These resources represent contexts or themes important in the City's history.

The following contexts (some overlapping) have been identified for the entirety of Riverside's human history: Spanish Mission Period; Mexican Rancho Period; Statehood and Colonization of Riverside; Water Rights and Access; Migration, Growth, Planning and Development; Citrus and Horticultural Experimentation; Immigration and Ethnic Diversity; Boosterism, Image and Cultural Development; Economic, Military and Industrial Growth; Post World War I Development, Education, and Post World War II Residential Development. These contexts and associated property types are discussed below.

Spanish Mission Period (1769–1833)

Although Juan Bautista de Anza's vivid portrayal of the expedition created enthusiasm for future travelers into Alta California, early settlement in Riverside County was slow and sporadic. During the Mission Period of California history (1769–1833), Riverside County proved to be too far inland to establish missions or *asistencias*.

Leandro Serrano is credited to be the first non-native to settle in the Riverside County area. In 1818, Serrano obtained permission from priests at the San Luis Rey Mission in northern San Diego County to settle "five leagues of land in the Temescal," an area just southwest of the City's contemporary Sphere of Influence. Later in 1821, Native Americans from the San Gabriel Mission established Rancho San Gorgonio (near Banning and Beaumont, several miles east of the City's Sphere of Influence).

Adobe structures and land development patterns of the earliest European settlement are documented through written histories and are evidenced in archaeological sites and artifacts and cultural landscapes that echo the Spanish Mission periods.

Mexican Rancho Period (1834–1848)

After Mexico successfully overthrew Spanish rule in 1821, the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act in 1833. Passage of this act resulted in reorganization of the missions into parish churches wherein the former missions lost their vast land holdings to the hands of private Mexican citizens and released the Native Americans to fend for themselves. During the resultant Rancho Period (1834–1848), ranchos were predominately devoted to the cattle industry, and large tracts of land were devoted to grazing.

Until the gold rush of 1849, livestock and horticulture dominated the economics of California. Sixteen ranchos were granted in Riverside County, with the first of these, Rancho Jurupa, granted to Juan Bandini in 1839. Encompassing approximately 32,000 acres, Rancho Jurupa was centered west of Norco and east of the Prado Basin along the Santa Ana River, west of the City's Sphere of Influence.

Settlement continued to develop through the years along the Santa Ana and San Jacinto rivers. With the influx of new settlers, some of the larger ranchos were subdivided into smaller parcels. Among the new settlers was Louis Rubidoux, who purchased 6,700 acres in the center of Rancho Jurupa. After his death in 1868, a portion of his ranch would become part of Riverside Colony.

In addition to Juan Bandini and Louis Rubidoux, other early rancheros and land grant holders included Cornelius Jenson, Benjamin Ables, Arthur Parks and J. H. Stewart. Across the Santa Ana River to the northwest were two Spanish-speaking towns, Agua Mansa and La Placita, settled by migrants from New Mexico. All of these settlements were established in the area prior to John W. North's 1870 establishment of the Riverside Colony.

Historic resources characteristic of the Rancho periods in the City's Planning Area may include adobe dwellings, archaeological sites, artifacts and cultural landscapes that echo the California Ranchero period of California history; these are generally documented through written histories and are evidenced in archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.

Statehood and Colonization of Riverside (1848-1900)

With the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848 ending the Mexican American War, California came under greater Euro-American influence, becoming a U.S. state in 1850. Through the 1860s to 1870s, the greater Riverside area continued to draw settlers and tradesmen; however, growth in the area remained slow until well after the Civil War and the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869.

The Riverside Colony was founded in 1870 as a cooperative joint-stock citricultural venture by an abolitionist judge, John W. North, and a group of reform-minded colleagues. This is the first period in which the area became known as "Riverside". Funded by the profitable citrus industry that North and others established, Riverside evolved by 1895 into the richest city in the U.S. (on a per capita basis).

Historic resource property for the Colonization historic period includes houses and churches. Other artifacts of this period are street patterns, the earliest water distribution systems and land use patterns for the original town of Riverside, cultural landscapes (street medians with plantings, agricultural patterns), Evergreen Cemetery and the Parent Navel Orange Tree. Houses of this period were typically wood frame, one- or two-story structures with simple rectangular or "L" plans and gable roofs. Designs represented were variations of Queen Anne, Stick, Eastlake, Italianate, and Greek, Gothic and Colonial Revival styles. Concentrations of these Victorian-era buildings are located in the City's downtown Mile Square area. Although the City's first commercial buildings were replaced early on by more

substantial structures, the land use patterns still prevalent today in the downtown commercial zone were established in this period.

Water Rights and Access; Migration, Growth and Development (circa 1870-1890)

A quasi-public water company was established soon after the City's incorporation, and bonds were floated to improve the canal system. By 1895, the town was a wealthy, gilded age version of North's irrigated cooperative. The town's well educated and mostly Protestant citizens turned their attention towards applying the latest methods of industrial capitalism and scientific management, and to irrigating, growing, processing and marketing navel oranges. They succeeded; by 1890, citriculture had grossed approximately \$23 million for the area's economy.

The City of Riverside's potential attracted investment capital from around the U.S., Canada and Great Britain. The influx of wealth and manners led to high aesthetic and cultural goals for the City and added large doses of savoir faire and leisure time pursuits, including polo, golf and tennis. The introduction of the railroad further expanded Riverside's growth and the citrus market potential which were so tightly linked. The combination of water, boosterism, consensus building, navel oranges, the railroad and cooperative marketing unleashed Southern California's commercial potential. A once pastoral area was transformed in the process.

Historic resource property types that represent this major growth period in the City's history include: canals, parks, churches, cultural institutions, bridges, cultural landscapes, expanded street and land-use patterns, commercial and agri-industrial buildings, railroad structures and houses. Residences ranged in size and style from elaborate two-story, irregular plan, Queen Anne and Colonial Revival designs to modest, one-story, rectangular plan, hipped roof cottages with restrained ornamentation that referenced the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival mansions of the period. Shingle and Romanesque influences also appeared in Riverside during this period. Commercial structures were usually brick with cast iron storefronts. Agri-industrial buildings were either brick (with stucco exterior) or wood frame and steel truss construction. Commercial, railroad depots and agri-industrial buildings began referencing Spanish architectural influences.

Citrus and Horticulture Experimentation (circa 1870-1945)

Riversiders created efficient citrus packing concepts and machinery, refrigerated rail shipments of citrus fruits, scientific growing methods, mechanized packing and pest management techniques. Soon after the turn of the century, the City could boast that it had founded the most successful agricultural cooperative in the world, with the establishment of the California Fruit Growers Exchange, known by its trademark, Sunkist. The Citrus Experiment Station, a world-class research institution, Riverside was on its way to becoming the world center for citrus machinery production.

As Riverside saw much experimentation with citrus horticulture and inventions that mechanized the packing and shipping of produce, historic resource property types in the previous contexts may also be significant under the Citrus and Horticulture Experimentation

context. Structures for agri-industrial activities and railroad development represent this context. Mansions built by businessmen associated with companies for packing and shipping citrus and simple to modest dwellings for workers supporting the agricultural and industrial products also represent the period. Stylistically, buildings repeat those of the previous context; there also is an emergence and development of Beaux Arts Classicism and Craftsman architectural design in commercial, civic and residential buildings. The expanding use of irrigation in citrus created cultural landscapes that represent this context.

Immigration and Ethnic Diversity (circa 1870-1940)

A succession of diverse cultural groups came to the region, lured by the City of Riverside's navel orange industry, each with their own perspectives and dreams. Early citriculture was labor-intensive requiring large available pools of labor to succeed. Poor but eager immigrants from China, Japan, Italy, Mexico and later the "Dust Bowl" of America, flooded into Southern California to meet the labor demand in hopes of gaining their own fortunes. As a result, Riverside developed a substantial Chinatown and other ethnic settlements, including the predominantly Hispanic Casa Blanca and settlements of Japanese and Korean immigrants. A rich ethnic-socio-economic mix, the hallmark of contemporary California, had already developed in Riverside by World War II.

Historic resource property types associated with Hispanic, Asian and Italian immigrants are primarily residential buildings and neighborhoods. Houses exhibit plans and construction techniques of the 1880s through 1920s and were constructed in areas that were close to work activities of the inhabitants. They can be described mostly as vernacular buildings, but many have modest stylistic features such as full front porches, bay windows and ornamental detailing. Also associated with this context are various resources such as churches, parks and neighborhood commercial buildings.

Boosterism, Image and Cultural Development (circa 1880-1930)

Frank A. Miller, builder, renowned booster and master of the Mission Inn, who had arrived in Riverside during its late colonial years, emerged soon after the turn of the century as a preeminent community builder and promoter. Understanding that a great City needs myths and symbols as well as wealth to establish its identity, Miller strove for the first 30 years of the twentieth century to create symbols and themes for Riverside. Paralleling efforts elsewhere by Charles Loomis and Henry Huntington, Miller undertook a conscious, deliberate and strategic effort to create a Protestant version of the California mission period that could serve as Riverside's explanatory myth and the basis for its identifying symbols. His first and most noteworthy effort came in the form of the New Glenwood Hotel, later renamed the Mission Inn. Designed and built as a shrine to California's Spanish past, the Mission Inn was to become what author Kevin Starr called a "Spanish Revival Oz." The Inn made Riverside a center for the emerging Mission Revival Style in Southern California and proved to be a real estate promoter's dream.

Combined with the affluence and aesthetic lure of the citrus landscape, the Mission Inn made Riverside the desired residential, cultural and recreational destination of the wealthy railroad set of the early twentieth century. The City supported an opera house, theater, symphony and three golf courses. The era's most illustrious architects, landscape architects

and planners, including A.C. Willard, Arthur Benton, Myron Hunt, Julia Morgan, Charles Cheney and Henry Hosp, and accomplished local architects, like G. Stanley Wilson and Henry Jekel, filled Riverside with quality architecture and Mediterranean landscape features. Riverside's landscape was irrigated via its own municipal water utility, and its buildings were lit by the City's own electric light department.

The Mission Inn is the most prominent and influential historic resource representing this context. The promotional image of Riverside's Spanish Colonial past was idealized in this building as well as in numerous civic and commercial buildings constructed in the City's downtown. Designs for buildings epitomized architectural features of the period of Spanish colonization in both the exotic and vernacular aspects. Historic resource property types within this context also encompass references to American Colonial Revival in residential buildings and Beaux Arts Classicism in major civic and institutional buildings.

Post-World War I Development (circa 1918-1930)

Like many Southern California communities, Riverside experienced a population boom following World War I. Previously undeveloped areas were subdivided and residential tracts were planned and developed. In the downtown area, large properties were subdivided and modest-scale houses were built alongside the earlier grove houses.

The early years of this context are represented by Arts and Crafts period styles: California Bungalow, two-story Craftsman, Prairie and English cottage/Tudor Revival. By the end of World War I, a surge of patriotism for America and its allies produced houses in styles that referenced the American Colonial period and French, Spanish, Italian Renaissance and English architecture. Beaux Arts Classicism reached its peak in the post World War I period in civic architecture and Gothic Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival influenced designs for churches. The design trend for commercial buildings continued to be based upon Spanish and Classical motifs; many buildings were remodeled to reflect the Spanish Colonial Revival and Mission styles. The context is also represented in cultural landscapes that include public amenities such as parks and streetscape improvements.

Education (circa 1900-1955)

In the mid-1950s, the University of California selected Riverside as the site for an undergraduate liberal arts college. University of California Riverside (UCR) grew out of the Citrus Experiment Station and today has an international reputation as a research center for plant pathology, citrus biological control, cultivation practices, biomedicine and many other disciplines. Riverside is also the home of the second oldest community college in the state: Riverside Community College. Other schools, including the Sherman Indian School, California Baptist University and La Sierra University, make Riverside a regional center for learning and research.

Within this historic context resource property types are represented in the UCR buildings associated with significant contributions to research in one of the academic areas mentioned above. Additionally, the cultural landscape of UCR is a significant historic resource. The Sherman Indian School Administration building and the site of the school as a cultural landscape also represent the education context.

Public school buildings, Riverside Community College, California Baptist University and La Sierra University buildings and sites are examples of potential historic resource property types for this era.

Post-World War II Residential/Commercial Development (circa 1945-1960)

Riverside's second major boom in residential development occurred in the post-World War II period. Affordable suburban housing tracts were developed with nearby commercial centers to serve the needs of new residents.

Historic resources property types for this context primarily include tracts of post-war vernacular style houses. The best intact examples are the Sun Gold Terraces and "Cowboy Streets" communities. These one-story residences were modest in size and typically had stucco or wood siding and attached garages. The tracts themselves were distinctively designed with curving street patterns. Commercial centers built during this period include the Brockton Arcade.

Historic and Archaeological Resource Surveys

The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) is the nation's official list of cultural resources identified for preservation. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate and protect historic and archeological resources. Properties listed in the National Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture.

The California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) includes historic resources of importance in accordance with the following designation criteria:

- associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.
- associated with the lives of people important to local, California or national history,
- embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possess high artistic values.
- Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or nation.

All properties listed in the NRHP are automatically included in the CRHR.

Title 20 of the Riverside Municipal Code is the primary body of local historic preservation laws. Title 20 established the authority for preservation, the composition and administrative requirements of the Cultural Heritage Board, criteria for evaluating projects affecting cultural resources and procedures for protecting and designating significant cultural resources.

Title 20 recognizes four types of local designation as follows:

- Cultural Heritage Landmark: A cultural resource of the highest order of importance
- Structure of Merit: A cultural resource which is important, but at a lesser level of significance than a Cultural Heritage Landmark
- Historic District: A geographically defined area within Riverside that has a significant concentration of cultural resources that represent themes important in local history
- Neighborhood Conservation Area: Similar to a historic district, but with structures/resources of somewhat lesser significance and/or with a lesser concentration of resources

Landmark and Structure of Merit designations may be initiated by the City Council, the Cultural Heritage Board or a property owner; designations are established by resolution of the City Council. Historic District and Neighborhood Conservation Area designations may be initiated by petition of property owners as well as the above entities. These are also established resolution of the City Council.

In accordance with Title 20, a Certificate of Appropriateness must be granted to property owners to alter, demolish or relocate properties that are designated or determined eligible for designation. A Certificate of Appropriateness is also required for new construction within historic districts.

Cultural Resources Literature and Records Search

The City of Riverside was one of the first cities in California to enter into an agreement with the State Office of Historic Preservation to conduct a historic resources survey. As a result of these surveys, conducted between 1977 and 1980, more than 6,000 properties were documented. Of these, approximately 1,200 were recorded on the State Historic Resources Inventory forms. As of 1980, the City designated 40 buildings Structures of Merit as well as 27 Cultural Heritage Board Landmarks. In 2000, an historic resources survey was completed for the Eastside and Casa Blanca neighborhoods, resulting in the recordation of approximately 1,400 additional structures on State Historic Resources Inventory Forms. As of 2004, the City had recorded 110 Cultural Heritage Landmarks, more than 1,000 Structures of Merit, 10 Historic Districts, 4 Neighborhood Conservation Areas, and 20 National Register of Historic Places properties. At present, the City's only designated archaeological resource is the Chinatown site. **Table 5.5-1** lists the designated Historic Districts and Neighborhood Conservation Areas in the City.

**Table 5.5-1
Historical Districts and Neighborhood Conservation Areas**

District/Area	Date Established
Historic District	
Seventh Street	1980
Prospect Place	1986
Rosewood Place	1986
Wood Streets	1986
Mission Inn	1986
Mount Rubidoux	1987
Heritage Square	1988
Seventh Street East	1989
Colony Heights	1998
Evergreen Quarter	2004
Neighborhood Conservation Area	
Old Magnolia	1981
Twogood Orange Grove Tract	1981
Wood Streets	1981
St. Andrews Terrace	1990

Two new Historic Districts have also been proposed for designation after a resurvey of the “Mile Square” area was completed in 2000 in conjunction with the Downtown Specific Plan: Mile Square Northwest and Mile Square Southwest.

Refer to Appendix D and the City of Riverside’s website for the lists of historical structures and natural features in the Planning Area recognized at the national, State and local levels, which are based on data gathered from the Historic Preservation Element of the City of Riverside General Plan and the Existing Setting Report for the Riverside County Integrated Project².

Methodology

For prehistoric and historical archaeological resources, a literature and records search of the general project location was completed by Applied EarthWorks archaeologists at the Eastern Information Center (EIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System between July 16 and July 21, 2003. For purposes of this investigation, maps examined for the entire 91,200-acre study area included the Riverside West, Riverside East, Fontana, San Bernardino South, Corona North, Lake Mathews and Steele Peak 1:24,000-scale U.S.G.S. topographic maps. Data gathered included plotting the locations of all previously identified archaeological sites, a listing of all manuscript files pertaining to cultural resources studies, and estimations regarding previous archaeological survey coverage per square mile.

Results of the archaeological literature and records search at the EIC indicate that more than 310 cultural resources investigations have been completed within the City’s Planning Area; due to the large volume of documents and budgetary constraints, copies of the reports were

² LSA Associates, Inc. 2000. *Existing Setting Report, Riverside County Integrated Project*. Report prepared by LSA Associates, Inc., Irvine, CA. Prepared for the Riverside County Planning Department, Riverside, CA.

not gathered at the EIC. These cultural resources studies resulted in the identification and documentation of more than 800 prehistoric and historical archaeological sites. Within current City limits, 538 prehistoric sites, 51 historical sites and 5 sites containing both prehistoric and historical remains have been documented; within the City's Sphere of Influence an additional 199 prehistoric sites, 8 historical sites, and one site containing both prehistoric and historical remains have been documented.

Prehistoric archaeological site types are predominately bedrock milling stations containing bedrock milling slicks and mortar cups. Other prehistoric site types include: flaked and ground stone scatters; lithic quarry locations exploited for stone tool manufacture; and several large village locations containing flaked and ground stone tools, bedrock milling features, pictographs and petroglyphs and house pit features. Historical archaeological site types include: numerous canals and canal remnants (e.g., Pedley Canal, Gage Canal, Upper/Lower Riverside Canal, Evans Pellistier Ditch) and associated pumphouses dating to the late 1800s and early 1900s; mines (e.g., Cajalco Tin Mine, Quartz Queen [Indian Queen] Mine); Riverside's Chinatown; Pacific Electric Railway transfer stations; and historical structural remains associated with former homestead locations. It should be noted that other types of historical archaeological resources, such as buried hollow features containing historical refuse deposits, are often associated with standing historical structures.

In summary, the literature and records searches indicate that much of the City's Planning Area has a fairly high sensitivity for containing prehistoric archaeological resources, historical archaeological resources, and historical resources.

Thresholds for Determining Level of Impact

For the purposes of this EIR, a significant impact will occur if Project implementation:

- Causes a substantial change in the significance of a historical resource;
- Causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource;
- Directly or indirectly destroys a unique paleontological resource or site or unique feature; or
- Disturbs any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

Environmental Impacts

Development pursuant to Project policies and regulatory standards will result in the addition of up to 38,100 dwelling units and 39.6 million square feet of non-residential construction over the 20-year horizon of the General Plan.

Three types of impact to cultural and paleontological resources may occur by future development built pursuant to General Plan policy, Zone Code regulations, and the Design Guidelines: (1) destruction of known or unknown prehistoric, historical archaeological or paleontological resources; (2) the potential to disturb Native American human remains; and (3) adverse changes in the elements of historical structures, features, and landscapes that make them significant resources. Each of these impacts is described more fully below.

Destruction of Known and Unknown Archaeological or Paleontological Resources

Based on what is known of the histories of local Native American groups and previously recorded archaeological sites, significant archeological resources are known to exist within the City's Planning Area. In addition, the Planning Area includes several sites where significant paleontological resources have been discovered. If projects are approved within undeveloped portions of the Planning Area, an increase in population, residential and non-residential structures and associated infrastructure will result. Thus, Project implementation has the potential to disturb vacant lands and may cause the destruction of significant archaeological or paleontological resources, as defined in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5. Although the General Plan focuses new development to urbanized areas of the City further excavation in these areas could nevertheless have archeological impacts.

Significant prehistoric and historic archaeological resources must be considered in the City's project planning and development process, and any proposed project that may affect significant archaeological cultural resources must be submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for review and comment prior to approval by the City and prior to construction.

In addition, the General Plan (Historic Preservation Element, adopted 2003) includes the following goal and policies, the adherence to which will reduce potential impacts to archaeological and paleontological resources:

Goal 1: To use historic preservation principles as an equal component in the planning and development process.

Policy 1.1: The City shall promote the preservation of significant cultural resources to ensure that citizens of Riverside have the opportunity to understand and appreciate the City's unique heritage.

Policy 1.2: The City shall assume its direct responsibility for historic preservation by actively protecting and maintaining its publicly owned cultural resources. Such resources may include buildings, monuments, landscapes, and right-of-way improvements, such as retaining walls, granite curbs, entry monuments, light standards, street trees, and the scoring, dimensions, and patterns of sidewalks, driveways, curbs and gutters.

Policy 1.3: The City shall protect sites of archaeological and paleontological significance and ensure compliance with the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act in its planning and project review process.

Potential to Disturb Native American Human Remains

Numerous archaeological studies within the Planning Area have revealed the presence of Native American human remains. Although most have been associated with former residential village locations, isolated burials and cremations have also been found. If development projects are proposed in currently undeveloped areas, disturbance could have the potential to disturb or destroy buried Native American human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. Consistent with state laws protecting these remains (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98), sites containing Native American human remains must be identified and treated in a sensitive manner.

The General Plan (Historic Preservation Element, Adopted in 2003) includes the following policy, the adherence to which will reduce potential impacts to Native American Human Remains:

Policy 1.3: The City shall protect sites of archaeological and paleontological significance and ensure compliance with the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act in its planning and project review process.

On an operational level, the City will continue to incorporate as conditions of any development project's approval that the discovery of remains during construction shall require a temporary cessation of work until the discovery is assessed by a qualified professional.

Adverse Changes in the Significance of Historical Resources

Future development may occur in areas that may contain significant historical structures and features. Although the City has policies to protect and minimize adverse impacts to historical structures and features, the potential exists for significant impacts to these resources to occur as a result of development projects proposed by the City, as defined in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5.

The State Office of Historic Preservation has recognized the City of Riverside's historic preservation program, specifically Title 20 of the Municipal Code. The City is designated a "Certified Local Government" by the State.

The General Plan (Historic Preservation Element, Adopted in 2003) includes the following objective and policies, the adherence to which will reduce potential impacts to historic resources:

Goal 1: To use historic preservation principles as an equal component in the planning and development process.

Policy 1.2: The City shall assume its direct responsibility for historic preservation by actively protecting and maintaining its publicly owned cultural resources. Such resources may include buildings, monuments, landscapes, and right-of-way improvements, such as retaining walls, granite curbs, entry monuments,

light standards, street trees, and the scoring, dimensions, and patterns of sidewalks, driveways, curbs and gutters.

Goal 2: To continue an active program to identify, interpret and designate the City's cultural resources.

Policy 2.1 The City shall actively pursue a comprehensive program to document and preserve historic buildings, structures, districts, sites (including archaeological sites), objects, landscapes, and natural resources.

Policy 2.2 The City shall continually update its identification and designation of cultural resources that are eligible for listing in local, state and national registers based upon the 50 year age guideline for potential historic designation eligibility.

Goal 4: To fully integrate the consideration of cultural resources as a major aspect of the City's planning, permitting and development activities.

Policy 4.1: The City shall maintain an up-to-date database of cultural resources and use that database as a primary informational resource for protecting those resources.

Policy 4.2: The City shall apply the California State Historical Building Code to ensure that City building code requirements do not compromise the integrity of significant cultural resources.

With adherence to and implementation of the goals and policies listed above, programmatic level impacts to cultural and paleontological resources will be less than significant. No mitigation is required.

The significance of impacts to cultural and paleontological resources resulting from specific future development projects will be determined on a project-by-project basis. If project-level impacts are identified, specific mitigation measures will be required per CEQA.

Mitigation Measures

Project impact is less than significant at a programmatic level, and no mitigation is required.

Level of Impact after Mitigation

No mitigation is required, as impacts are less than significant at the programmatic level.

References

Draft Cultural Resources Element of the City of Riverside General Plan Update. Applied EarthWorks, Inc. December, 2003

Historic Preservation Element of the City of Riverside General Plan (adopted 2003, GP-005-023).